

In the Drawings

Accompanying this amendment are replacement sheets for Figs. 2-7.

REMARKS

The undersigned requests a personal interview with the Examiner in charge of this application.

The drawings were objected to for failure to show certain reference numerals in some figures. Replacement sheets for figures 2-7 are enclosed to correct the deficiencies pointed out by the Examiner. Paragraphs [0055] and [0059] have been amended to make appropriate corrections in the specification.

The specification was objected to for a number of informalities. The specification has been corrected in the places identified by the Examiner.

Claim 14 was objected to as being informal. This claim has been canceled.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-16 were rejected as being anticipated by Talamo (5,588,734).

Claims 4, 8 and 17 were rejected as being unpatentable over Talamo in view of Conti (2002/0126473)

Claim 9 was rejected as being unpatentable over Talamo in view of Simmons (3,935,443).

Talamo discloses a side light for roller skates using a hollow transparent tube containing light elements. Clips 30 and 31 are used to mount the tube on to the roller skates.

Conti has a line connecting persons in a dark environment and was cited for the use of clip hooks on the ends of line 22 which does not appear to be lighted so it is not clear that the teachings of this reference are applicable to Talamo.

Simmons shows an illuminated animal collar and leash and was cited for the ring used with a clip hook. In this reference, there is disclosed a collar and leash containing

lamps. The reference does not appear to teach or suggest the addition of a lighted, translucent or transparent tube to be mounted on a leash.

In view of the excellent art cited by the Examiner, claim 1 has been extensively amended to recite the hollow, elongated member containing the string of lights having end caps, a control assembly mounted on the outside of the elongated member, U-shaped fastener loops (see Fig. 2) mounted on the outside of the elongated member, and fastener straps threaded through the loops for engaging the elongated member to an article to be illuminated after dark. It is believed that this combination of features is not found or suggested in the art cited by the Examiner. The use of fastener straps allows the elongated member to remain in close proximity to the article (ie, the leash), while the attachment members connected to the end caps allows the ends of the elongated member to be directly attached to the article. These features do not appear to be suggested in Talamo, Conti, or Simmons.

Claims 3, 5, 7-8, 10-11, and 14-17 have been canceled and have been replaced by a new claim 18 which will be discussed below.

The remaining depending claims add details of the present invention including that of the control assembly, the clip hooks and the fastener straps.

New claim 18 is directed to the combination of an animal leash and the illuminated elongated member. The manner in which the elongated member is attached to the leash as claimed does not appear to be suggested in the art of record.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims in their present form are not drawn to patentable subject matter and should be allowed.

A conscientious effort has been made to place this application in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned or Mr. Kroll if further changes are required to obtain allowance of the application.

A favorable action is solicited.

Baez
10/750,641

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Mail Stop Amendment PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on Aug. 30, 2005.



Leonard Belkin